

SENATE BILL 2177

By Jackson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, relative to notice of termination of certain insurance coverage.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-7-2366, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) Every insured or policy holder of a group policy of accident and sickness insurance offered for sale in this state, that provides coverage for hospital or medical expenses that also provides coverage to the spouse of the insured, shall provide at least thirty (30) days' prior notice of the termination of coverage to the covered spouse as a result of a divorce, a legal separation, or other separation. The notice shall be written, filed with the court that is hearing the divorce or legal separation prior to or at the final hearing, and served upon the spouse as provided by Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, or the insured spouse shall obtain written acknowledgment of receipt of the notice by the dependent spouse. If no divorce, legal separation or similar legal proceeding is pending, then the notice shall be transmitted by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the spouse.

SECTION 2. The administrative office of the courts is requested to change the form entitled "Notice Regarding Insurance Coverage of Spouses and Former Spouses" so that the certificate of service reflects the dependent spouse's acknowledgment of receipt as well as service of the notice.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.